



## Gender and climate change


Impacts, actions, possibilities



### Questions:

- Are there gender differences in the perception of and response to climate change?
- Who is causing climate change, by what activities, and for which purposes?
- Which policies and measures are preferred and are there gender implications?
- Are there gender implications or differences in the policies that are being developed?


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**Adaptations to climate change impacts on gender roles and responsibilities**

- Economic impacts
- Environmental impacts
- Social impacts
- Health impacts



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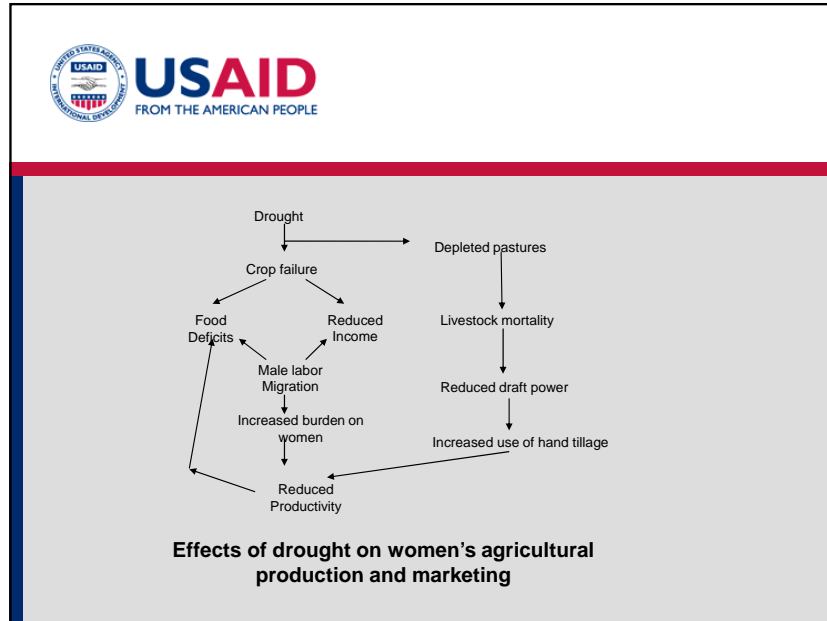
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**ECONOMIC IMPACTS**

- Drought, flooding, deforestation lead to:
  - Crop failure, depleted pastures leading to:  
Food deficits, livestock mortality, reduced income
- Responses include:
  - Male labor migration, increased burden on women
- Results are: reduced productivity

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**Environmental Impacts**

Climate change leads to failures in crop and livestock production

People then resort to practices that may be environmental degrading:

- Deforestation
- Overgrazing
- Overuse of water points, over-pumping
- Increased salinization of soils

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## SOCIAL IMPACTS

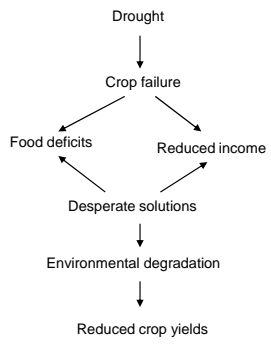
Crop and livestock failures also have social impacts:

- Reduced income which can lead to desperate solutions such as forced marriages or prostitution
- Break up of families as members leave to seek other income
- Selling of assets
- Food deficits

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graph TD; Drought --> Crop_failure[Crop failure]; Crop_failure --> Food_deficits[Food deficits]; Crop_failure --> Reduced_income[Reduced income]; Food_deficits --> Desperate_solutions[Desperate solutions]; Reduced_income --> Desperate_solutions; Desperate_solutions --> Environmental_degradation[Environmental degradation]; Environmental_degradation --> Reduced_crop_yields[Reduced crop yields];
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**Environmental and social consequences of drought**

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## HEALTH IMPACTS

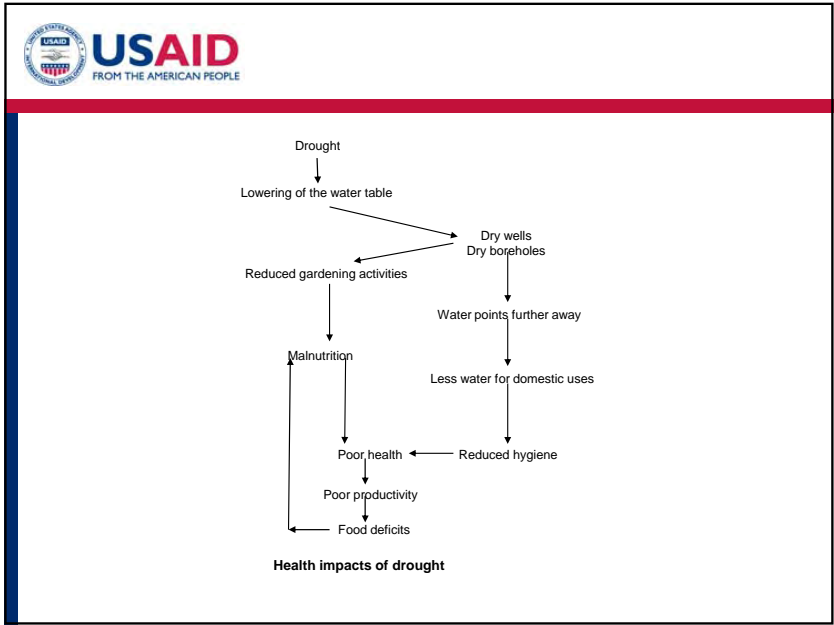
Lowering of the water table leads to:


- Dry wells/boreholes
- Water sources at greater distances
- Less water for domestic use

Reduced hygiene which leads to:

- Poor health
- Poor productivity
- Food deficits
- Malnutrition

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### Gender and climate change in the south: adaptation

- Economic impacts
- Environmental impacts
- Social impacts
- Health impacts



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### Gender and climate change in the north: mitigation

- Cutting emissions
  - Is the polluter paying?
- How well informed are people?
  - Role of personal responsibility
- Gender impacts of policies on:
  - Energy
  - Urban mobility
  - Urban planning

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## POLICY AND PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- Meet immediate food needs
- Strengthen women's role as farmers in their own right
- Introduce environmentally sustainable long-term solutions to food deficits (strategic) vs. short-term solutions that may immediately improve conditions but do not empower women (*practical*)

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**Strategic gender needs are met when investments  
are made in women and children.**



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**Thank you**



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